

"THE WHISTLER"

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1952

A Matter of Time

7:30-8:00 PM PST

1 ANNCR: And now stay tuned for the program that has rated
2 tops in popularity for a longer period of time...
3 than any other West Coast Program in radio history...
4 The Signal Oil Program....The Whistler.
5 MUSIC: (WHISTLE)
6 MUSIC: (TYMP BEATS)
7 ANNCR: (ON ECHO) ...Singal....the famous go-farther
8 gasoline, invites you to sit back and enjoy another
9 strange story by "The Whistler".
10 MUSIC: WHISTLE ON FULL ECHO...DIMINISH ECHO TO CLEAR AND
11 SEGUE TO:
12 ORCHESTRA UP TO CLIMAX.
13 WHISTLER: I am the Whistler...(SNEAK ORCHESTRA THEME AND CARRY
14 UNDER FOLLOWING) ... And I know many things...for I
15 walk by night. I know many strange tales hidden in
16 the hearts of men and women who have stepped into
17 the shadows...Yes, I know the nameless terrors of
18 which they dare not speak.
19 MUSIC: THEME AND TYMP BRIDGE
20 ANNCR: And now for the Signal Oil Company, the Whistler's
21 strange story "A Matter of Time."

1 WHISTLER: With Russ Logan, time was of the essence...he'd
2 always been a most meticulous man...minutes meant
3 money...and appointments, to his way of thinking,
4 were made to be kept. Through the years you've
5 become even more so, haven't you, Russ...you're
6 careful, almost calculating, and certainly ever
7 aware for opportunities. Despite the kidding you've
8 taken from your business partner, Jim Kendric, and
9 even your wife, Jean... precision and time in all
10 matters have remained almost an obsession. Tonight,
11 riding with Jean and Kendric in his big, chauffeur-
12 driven car you sit very quietly...grimly amused that
13 a matter of carefully-planned minutes will mean
14 another opportunity to you.... one that your partner
15 doesn't quite approve of because it isn't strictly
16 legitimate...but you're certain his opinion will
17 soon make very little difference...and a thin smile
18 of anticipation crosses your lips as the car swings
19 in the winding drive of Jim Kendric's home in
20 Coldwater Canyon....

21 SOUND: ANTICIPATE CAR IN MOTION UNDER. IT CHANGES GEARS TO
22 GO UP THE DRIVEWAY.

23 JEAN: Russ, dear...you're awfully quiet. Restaurant food
24 disagree with you?

25 JIM: (AFTER PAUSE) Russ, your wife's talking to you.

1 RUSS: Uh? Oh, sorry, Jean
2 JEAN: Penny for your thoughts.
3 JIM: (LAUGHS) I think you've been dreaming about
4 everything we've been saying.
5 RUSS: I'm sorry.
6 SOUND: (CAR SLOWS)
7 JIM: (LAUGHS AGAIN) Maybe if we get onto the subject of
8 nightcap. How about it?
9 RUSS: (SMILES) Sounds good to me, Jim.
10 JIM: You see, Jean - we've hit on a something that
11 interests your lord and master.
12 JEAN: A nightcap will probably pick us all up.
13 JIM: Sure. (SPEAKS UP) Stop here in front, Nick.
14 NIC: (OFF) Yes, sir.....
15 SOUND: (CAR STOPPING, IDLING THROUGH FOLLOWING)
16 CAST: AD LIBS AS THEY GET OUT OF CAR
17 JIM: You can put the car in the garage. Russ and Jean
18 drove over.
19 NICK: Right, Mr. Kendric.
20 SOUND: CAR MOVES OFF)
21 JIM: (LAUGHS) C'mon, folks ...
22 SOUND: (THEIR STEPS UNDER)
23 JEAN: See - Russ is looking at his watch again. Afraid
24 you'll miss an appointment in the morning, darling?

1 JIM: What's the matter. Russ - with all your clock
2 watching - you'd think you weren't a member of the
3 firm.
4 JEAN: I keep telling you, Jim - you ought to rig up a time
5 clock for Russ.....let him punch in every morning.
6 (SHE AND KENDRIC LAUGH)
7 RUSS: Okay, okay
8 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)
9 WHISTLER: You don't mind, do you, Russ....not in the least....
10 and you've a reason for glancing at your watch....
11 the seconds are counting again, aren't they....in
12 your life....and, more particularly, in your partner,
13 Jim Kendric's....if he only knew what was about to
14 happen, he'd be watching every moment too. They're
15 inside now.....and you have only to wait until you
16 hear Nick, the chauffeur, coming in the back door to
17 enter his room then you can set your plan in motion....
18 But something unexpected happens.....
19 JIM: Got a little surprise for you, folks. (SMILES) Some
20 fine old Napoleon Brandy.
21 RUSS: Oh?
22 JIM: Let's see now -- (REMEMBERS) Oh yes - it's in the
23 den. Wait right here, (FADES) I'll get it.
24 RUSS: (ALARMED) Wait a minute, Jim. I---(BREAKS OFF)
25 JIM: (HESITATES. OFF) Yes, Russ?
26 RUSS: Uh - nothing. I was just going to get them for you....

1 JIM: (FADING) Everybody wants to be so helpful tonight.
2 SOUND: HIS FOOTSTEPS TO DOOR, OFF. THEN DOOR OPENING.
3 JIM: -- You'd think I didn't know the way around my own ---
4 SOUND: TWO SHOTS
5 JIM (REACTS. HIT)
6 JEAN: (LEAPS UP, STIFLES A SCREAM) Jim?!
7 RUSS: What the devil?!
8 JIM: (STAGGERS TOWARD THEM) In the den - still there --
9 get him!
10 RUSS: But, Jim....you - you've been hit!
11 JIM: Get him, I said -- go after him, Russ!
12 JEAN: I'll take care of him, Russ. Here, Jim - lie down on
13 the davenport. I'll call a doctor!
14 JIM: (SUFFERING, BUT ANNOYED) Hurry up, Russ -- he went
15 out the french windows. Don't just stand there!
16 RUSS: Where do you keep that gun you have?
17 JIM: In the desk in the den. Will you hurry up?!
18 RUSS: (MOVING OFF) Sure...sure, Jim.....I'll get him,
19 don't worry.
20 JIM: And you, Jean - call the police first - get them up
21 here!
22 JEAN: Right away!
23 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)

1 WHISTLER: It's infuriating, isn't it, Russ....that everything
2 had to be spoiled by a simple break in the routine...
3 Jim's surprise....the bottle of Napoleon Brandy....it
4 sent him into the den before you wanted your plan to
5 go into effect...before Nick, the chauffeur, had time
6 to get inside the house to his room....Now, racing
7 around the side of the house you hope that Nick
8 hasn't caught the killer. You're furious that things
9 didn't go according to schedule.....now you can only
10 hope as you rush to the spot, far back on the property,
11 where you were to meet the man who fired on Jim
12 Kendric. You've promised him you'll hide him away,
13 haven't you, Russ....yes....that's what you promised,
14 but actually you're going to use the gun in your
15 hand, put him away forever. At the designated spot,
16 near a huge pepper tree you wait.....listen for his
17 footsteps.....

18 SOUND: (OFF SLIGHTLY) MOVEMENT. FOOTSTEPS

19raise the gun and aim in the direction of the
20 sound....Then---

21 NICK: Is that you Mr. Logan?

22 RUSS: (GASPS) Nick!

23 NICK: (COMING ON) I think I've trapped him for you,
24 sir -- up in the canyon -- and Mrs. Logan says the
25 police are on their way!

26 MUSIC: (HITS IN, UNDER)

1 WHISTLER: You're terrified now, aren't you, Russ....it's going
2 all wrong....they'll capture the gunman and he'll talk,
3 implicate you...the next few minutes drag by as Nick
4 stays close to you and then the police arrive, start
5 closing in around the canyon in back of Jim Kendrick's
6 place....and finally, the shouted words that you fear
7 the most.....

8 COP: (OFF, SHOUTING) Over here, everybody! We've got
9 him! We've got the guy!!

10 MUSIC: (CURTAIN)

1 ANNCR: Now - a word about the chilly nights and mornings
2 we've been having. To be sure your car will spring
3 to life "pronto" - when you touch the starter - you
4 naturally want a gasoline that's engineered to help
5 your engine perform efficiently. But how can you -
6 Mr. or Mrs. Average Motorist - measure how efficiently
7 your engine is running? Well - the easiest way is by
8 the mileage you get. Which explains why we're so
9 proud of Signal's good mileage; mileage that has made
10 Signal known throughout the west - from Canada to
11 Mexico - as the go-farther gasoline. After all -
12 there's only one way Signal can give such good mileage.
13 That's by helping your engine run so efficiently -
14 you save gasoline. Save gasoline with quick starting.
15 Save gasoline with smooth pickup. Save gasoline with
16 full power. And of course - the more gasoline you
17 save - the more mileage you enjoy. So there you
18 have it in a nutshell - friends! The reason why
19 mileage is the best yardstick to measure gasoline
20 efficiency - AND driving pleasure. The reason why
21 so many smart motorists today - are switching to
22 Signal - the famous go-farther gasoline!

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 WHISTLER: Well, Russ...you knew it, everything was ruined the
3 moment your neatly planned schedule was broken, didn't
4 you...when your partner, Jim Kendric, headed for the
5 den in his home instead of going to the bar, as he
6 usually did...the tiny flaw in timing brought on by
7 the simple fact that he had a surprise for you and
8 Jean...a bottle of Napoleon Brandy...if it hadn't been
9 for that, Jim wouldn't have entered the study quite so
10 soon...there would have been time for Nick, his
11 chauffeur, to have returned to the house...and the
12 gunman you had hiding in the den would have had time
13 to get away and reach the spot, outside the house,
14 where he was to meet you...but it's gone wrong, all the
15 way..and now the gunman has been caught because Nick
16 saw him, chased him up into the canyon, kept him
17 trapped there until the police arrived...you haven't
18 even a chance to run for it because one of the officers
19 is right at your side....

20 CAST: ANTICIPATE B.G. CONVERSATION...POLICE, ETC.

21 COP: He's right over there, Mr. Logan. The chauffeur here
22 got a good look at him when he ran out of the house.

23 RUSS: (WEAKLY) Fine. That's fine.

24 CAST: (CLOSER) GROUP. EXCITEMENT

25 NICK: (SUDDENLY) Hey!

26 RUSS: What is it, Nick?

27 NICK: He's not the guy!

TC

1 RUSS: (BRIGHTENS) Wha-at?
2 NICK: He's not the guy. (UP) Officer, he's not the one -
3 you've got the wrong man!
4 COP: You sure?
5 NICK: I'd know him!
6 COP: Ummm...Sorry, mister -- guess we made a mistake.
7 RUSS: (LOW, TO SELF) (GROANS IN RELIEF)
8 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)
9 WHISTLER: It's almost too good to be true, isn't it, Russ...that
10 your gunman escaped, somehow evaded Jim Kendric's
11 chauffeur, Nick, and the police...and, for the moment,
12 at least, you're in the clear again...you can't be
13 connected with Kendric's shooting. But you're still
14 worried, aren't you...Nick said he got a very good
15 look at the gunman...maybe he'll realize soon that he's
16 seen him before...and he might remember where..the
17 little bar near your office...that's where you planned
18 it all, isn't it, Russ...Yes-- when the police leave
19 and you're back inside Jim Kendric's house you learn
20 from your wife that your partner's wounds are not
21 serious....
22 JEAN: He's going to be all right, Russ. They took him to
23 the hospital in a police ambulance, but the doctor
24 said he wouldn't have to stay there long.
25 RUSS: We better get on home, Jean.

1 JEAN: All right. As long as Jim's okay. Whoever did it
2 got away, I guess.
3 RUSS: Yeah. Yeah, he - got away.
4 MUSIC: (BRIDGE, OUT INTO:)
5 SOUND: CAR STOPS. DOOR OPENING.
6 RUSS: You run on up to the apartment, Jean -- I'll put the
7 car away.
8 JEAN: (FADING) Don't be long, dear.
9 RUSS: I won't
10 SOUND: CAR DOOR CLOSED. CAR IN MOTION. TIRES SCREECH
11 SLIGHTLY AS HE TURNS IN, STOPS. CAR DOOR OPENED AND
12 CLOSED. FOOTSTEPS ECHOING HOLLOWLY IN APT. GARAGE.
13 FRANKIE: (WHISTLES SOFTLY)
14 SOUND: (RUSS STOPS WALKING)
15 FRANKIE: (WHISTLES AGAIN) (LOW) Over here, Russ!
16 SOUND: (FEW QUICK STEPS)
17 RUSS: (LOW) (SCARED) Frankie! What are you doing here?!
18 FRANKIE: (TENSE) Where else could I go? What went wrong?
19 I thought you said --
20 RUSS: I know what I said. Kendric went in there sooner than
21 I expected -- I couldn't stop him!
22 FRANKIE: That chauffeur saw me - I know he did!
23 RUSS: Yes - he saw you. Gave the police a description, too.
24 FRANKIE: Look, you said you'd hide me out!
25 RUSS: I would have...if things had gone right...But I can't
26 hide you in my apartment! I've got a wife, Frankie --
26 a wife who doesn't even know I'm mixed up in this.

1 FRANKIE: But the cops -- if they get to thinking - start
2 working on the description that chauffeur gave them --
3 it'll add up to Frankie Rizzo! Me!
4 RUSS: Take it easy.
5 FRANKIE: That's all right for you to say -- you got me into
6 this - said there'd be nothing to it - a simple job!
7 RUSS: (FLARING) That's right and it would have been if
8 you'd killed him! That's what you were paid to do!
9 FRANKIE: But --
10 RUSS: Skip it! I thought you knew what you were doing --
11 thought I was hiring a professional!
12 FRANKIE: So what do we do now?
13 RUSS: (DISGUSTED) Maybe that's your problem.
14 FRANKIE: No, no...you're in this. You did the hiring.
15 RUSS: Well...I'll help you get out of town - that's all!
16 FRANKIE: But I can't skip town - not tonight! They'll be
17 watching for me - the police - they'll have the
18 airports covered, every railroad station...(WHINING)
19 Fine mess...I wish you'd never picked me for this job..
20 I wish you'd never even found me....
21 RUSS: (COLD) I went to a great deal of trouble finding you,
22 Frankie -- a great deal...I've never known anyone in
23 your business before...and it took me quite a while.

1 FRANKIE: So what happens now?
2 RUSS: Don't get excited, that's all. I'm not letting you
3 spoil everything...(DECIDES) Get in my car. I'll
4 drive you someplace where --
5 FRANKIE: I've got a pretty good hideout. There's a motel out
6 near the ocean....
7 RUSS: A motel? Good...I'll take you there. When things
8 cool down - I'll help you get out of the state.
9 But - quietly.
10 FRANKIE: (RELIEVED) Okay -- thanks, Russ....

1 RUSS: Wait in the car. I'll call upstairs - tell my wife
2 I've got something to do.

3 FRANKIE: Sure, sure, Russ... I'll wait.

4 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)

5 WHISTLER: You have to help him, don't you, Russ...even though
6 you're disgusted with the way he handled the shooting...
7 you call Jean, tell her that you've decided to pick up
8 a carton of cigarettes...a few minutes later you're
9 driving out Wilshire with Frankie Rizzo...he directs
10 you to the Surf Side Motel on the beach..you leave him
11 there, return to your own apartment, answer Jean's
12 sleepy inquiries with the alibi of a flat tire...When
13 you finally turn in, there's little sleep for you, is
14 there, Russ...you're tense...nervous..dreading the
15 moment when you'll have to face Jim Kendric again...
16 and that moment comes the following morning as you visit
17 the hospital, stand at his bedside. Jim greets you
18 with a curious smile on his lips....

19 JIM: Hello, Russ. (WITH EDGE) Nice of you to come.

20 RUSS: (TRYING TO BE CHEERFUL) Morning, Jim. How do you feel?

21 JIM: Just fine. They tell me I'm going to live.

22 RUSS: Of course you are.

23 JIM: (BEAT) Too bad, isn't it, Russ?

24 RUSS: Wh...what?

25 JIM: It would have solved all your problems if I'd kicked
26 off, Huh?....given you control of the business, too.

27 RUSS: What in the world are you talking about?

JIM: That little deal you approached me with two weeks ago.

1 RUSS: Deal?

2 JIM: Come off it, Russ. It's the usual procedure with
3 partners to agree before deciding to do something. We
4 disagreed, remember -- on that little "transaction"
5 which you thought our freight line would fit into so -
6 uh - neatly.

7 RUSS: Oh, now, look, Jim - you don't understand. I'm always
8 looking for business for us...

9 JIM: You're a better inside man, Russ - your meticulous
10 approach to the books and time cards --

11 RUSS: You want me to drive business away from now on?

12 JIM: If it's crooked, yes. Even if it means fifty thousand
13 profit...I won't stand for our trucks accepting a contract
14 to haul contraband -- I told you two weeks ago -- I'm
15 telling you again now -- as long as I'm a partner in this
16 outfit, we're keeping it clean!

17 RUSS: (TRYING TO CALM HIM) Okay...okay, Jim. Forget it...I
18 have. That's why I didn't know what you were talking
19 about...the moment we disagreed, I dismissed it from
20 my mind.

21 JIM: Really?

22 RUSS: Of course.

23 JIM: Funny...maybe I misjudged you, Russ -- I actually found
24 myself wondering if that little shooting at the house
25 didn't just have something to do with your - uh - plans...

26 RUSS: That's too ridiculous to dignify with an argument.

27 JIM: So we won't argue.

1 RUSS: The man who was in your study was obviously after the
2 safe...not you. You just made the mistake of walking
3 in there. I certainly didn't suggest it --
4 JIM: No, you didn't. Matter of fact, you stopped me -
5 (WONDERING) Why, Russ? What was it you were going to
6 ask me right at that time?
7 RUSS: I have no idea.
8 JIM: No...no, I don't suppose you have. (PAUSE) All right.
9 We won't settle anything this way. Maybe when the
10 police pick this guy up ...
11 RUSS: I wish they had him right now. I certainly don't like
12 any feeling of mistrust between us, Jim. It isn't
13 good for business

14 JIM: No....it isn't. Uh - Nick, my chauffeur, you know he
15 thinks he's seen this man before -- I mean, before
16 last night.

17 RUSS: Oh? Might give the police a lead, huh?

18 JIM: It might, Russ. It just might.

19 RUSS: He - uh - say where he'd seen him?

20 JIM: Yeah. Yeah. Down at the gym Nick goes to -- if it's the
21 same guy he's a cheap gambler named Ricco...or Reno...
22 something like that....the kind that just might take a
23 pot shot at somebody - for money - provided the right
24 sort of person talked him into it, assured him it would
25 be an easy setup...no danger.

26 RUSS: Nick ought to tell the police about all this.

27 JIM: Oh, he has. Yeah, Nick's told the police. Good boy,
28 Nick. Very loyal. (BEAT) Uh - sit down, Russ...sit
29 down...visit awhile....

1 RUSS: Uh...yeah. Sure, Jim. Sure...

2 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)

3 WHISTLER: You struggle to control the nervousness - the fear - that
4 builds within you, don't you, Russ... try to chat
5 casually with Jim about the business during the next
6 few minutes. He knows, doesn't he, Russ -- yes, you're
7 certain Jim knows you hired someone to kill him. You're
8 glad when your visit comes to an end...and you hurry
9 out of the hospital...back to your office. Then that
10 afternoon there's a phone call for you.

11 SOUND: PHONE RINGS...RECEIVER UP

12 RUSS: Hello..Logan speaking.

13 FRANKIE: (FILTER) Hello, pal...look, this place is giving me the
14 willies. I wanna get out of town.

15 RUSS: If you listened to me last night -

16 FRANKIE (FILTER) Okay..okay..so now I'm taking your advice.

17 RUSS: Look Frankie...I'd rather look this over in person..I'll
18 be out there in about half an hour. Okay?

19 FRANKIE: Okay...

20 SOUND: HANGING UP OF RECEIVER

21 MUSIC: BRIDGE

22 FRANKIE: Like I said Logan..ten grand ought to make a nice start.

23 RUSS: Ten gr - Oh now wait a minute!

24 FRANKIE: Sure, I know. Five grand was all you promised..but
25 the price has just gone up.

26 RUSS: But you made a deal.

27 FRANKIE: Since then I've decided to retire...and a guy who retires
28 has got to have capital and an income. (BEAT) You're
29 "it", pal...or else..
NT

1 RUSS: Or.....else what?
2 FRANKIE: Jim Kendrics might like to know who wanted to have him
3 knocked off....and why. (PAUSE) Well, what do you say?
4 RUSS: (SIGHS) Allright, Frankie...you win. I'll pick you up
5 at the motel soon as it gets dark.
6 FRANKIE: Good deal....Oh, and look, pal --
7 RUSS: Yes?
8 FRANKIE: When you're arranging my transportation you might as well
9 make it first class, huh? I like to travel in style.
10 MUSIC: IN AND UNDER:
11 WHISTLER: After you leave Frankie you return to your office -- sit
12 for nearly an hour thinking things out....and finally you
13 reach a decision. By the time you arrive at your apartment
14 you know exactly what you're going to do.
15 SOUND: DOOR CLOSE....FOOTSTEPS UNDER
16 RUSS: (CALLS) Jean?
17 JEAN: (OFF) I'm in the bedroom, Russ.....
18 SOUND: HIS FOOTSTEPS TO BEDROOM
19 Home early aren't you, darling?
20 RUSS: Yeah. (BEAT) You going out?
21 JEAN: Uh huh. Stella and I are going over to Westwood to a
22 cocktail party at Ruth Taylor's -- Uh....mind fixing your
23 own drink, Russ....I'm rushing....
24 RUSS: I think I'll skip the cocktail.....
25 JEAN: Headache?

1 RUSS: Yeah....sort of....A short nap should fix it.
2 JEAN: Oh, darling....before you get yourself comfortable...
3 mind doing something for me? Run down to Stella's
4 apartment....
5 RUSS: (YAWNS) What for?
6 JEAN: She's loaning me a pair of stockings to match my new
7 dress--I couldn't get the shade I wanted....
8 RUSS: (SIGHS) Okay....I'll get 'em.
9 SOUND: HIS FOOTSTEPS START OUT....THEN STOP
10 Oh, Jean....?
11 JEAN: (SLIGHT OFF) Yes?
12 RUSS: How...uh....how long you going to be gone?
13 JEAN: Oh....I don't know....couple of hours.
14 RUSS: You haven't forgotten we're going to the Andersons
15 for dinner tonight. They're expecting us at eight
16 and I -
17 JEAN: You don't want to be late. I know. I'll be back by
18 seven thirty or so.
19 RUSS: Never mind the or so. Make it seven thrity sharp. I'll
20 meet you down in the lobby.
21 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)

1 WHISTLER: You're pleased that Jean will be out of the apartment
2 for two hours, aren't you, Russ....but you've still
3 something else to solve...the little item of how you're
4 going to leave the building without being seen. It
5 comes to you when you reach Stella's apartment - two
6 floors below -- yes...standing in her living room,
7 looking out over the rear gardens...everything falls
8 neatly into place in your mind...Stella lives alone and
9 since she'll be at the cocktail party with your wife,
10 her apartment will be empty.....You chat with Stella for
11 a few moments, then as you leave her apartment you slip
12 the catch on the lock of her door....you know that she
13 might check it as she leaves, but you have to take that
14 chance...You hurry back upstairs....

15 SOUND: DOOR CLOSE. HIS FOOTSTEPS IN

16 RUSS: Here you are, Jean.

17 JEAN: Thanks, darling. Is Stella waiting?

18 RUSS: She's already. Just finished putting her face on.

19 JEAN: Oh, dear. Go on - say it - I'm never on time.

20 RUSS: (CHUCKLES) It's your party, this time. Just don't be
21 late for the dinner date.

22 JEAN: I won't.

23 RUSS: (YAWNS) Think I'll stretch out for awhile...

24 JEAN: All right, darling. (FADES SLIGHTLY) I'll be on my way.

25 RUSS: Oh, Jean -

26 JEAN: (OFF SLIGHTLY) Yes?

1 RUSS: On your way out with Stella - tell the clerk downstairs
2 I don't want to be disturbed...no phone calls.
3 JEAN: I'll tell him, darling.
4 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)
5 WHISTLER: You pretend to drop off to sleep...and five minutes
6 later Jean leaves you alone in the apartment. You
7 glance out the bedroom window...it'll be dark in
8 another half hour, won't it, Russ...dark enough to cover
9 your movement down the back fire escape...thru the
10 gardens.
11 MUSIC: (POINTS)
12 It's six fifty-five exactly when you again slip into
13 Stella's apartment...hurry down the fire escape...then
14 to your car parked in the street. Ten minutes later you
15 arrive at the Surf Side Motel. You're thankful for the
16 roar of the nearby surf as it will help cover the
17 sound of gunfire....
18 SOUND: ANTICIPATE OCEAN IN B.G. - TAP ON DOOR, LIGHTLY
19 FRANKIE: (BEHIND DOOR, MUFFLED) Yeah...who is it?
20 RUSS: (LOW) Open up, Frankie....
21 SOUND: UNLOCK DOOR...OPEN IT
22 FRANKIE: Hello, Russ. You got the money...?
23 RUSS: No...I don't have the money, Frankie.
24 FRANKIE: Huh? Look, I thought I was going to take a little
25 trip...?

1 RUSS: You are going on a trip...a long one.
2 FRANKIE: Hey, what's the idea of the rod...?
3 RUSS: The idea of the rod, Frankie...is this!
4 SCUND: WAVE CRASHES IN HEAVY, TWO SHOTS THROUGH
5 MUSIC: (HITS, THEN UNDER FOR:)
6 WHISTLER: As Frankie Rizzo crumbles to the floor...you whirl.....
7 race back to your car parked in the alley....
8 SOUND: START UP CAR...
9 WHISTLER: You're about to pull away when a police car stops in
10 front of the motel. Two officers get out...followed by
11 Nick, Jim's chauffeur. You watch as they stroll toward
12 the motel office...and then when they're out of sight...
13 SOUND: RUSS STEPS ON THE GAS...CAR RACES AWAY.
14 A lucky break, wasn't it, Russ. If you'd been only a
15 minute later they'd have caught you...but now you're
16 in the clear...racing back to your own apartment.
17 MUSIC: (POINTS)
18 It's twenty-five minutes after seven when you slip back
19 into the building through Stella's apartment. From the
20 window you can see Jean and Stella driving up...you
21 sprint upstairs to your own floor, take the elevator
22 from there to the lobby ... chat for a moment with the
23 desk clerk until Jean arrives...
24 SOUND: HER FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING, UNDER
25 JEAN: (COMING ON) Sorry, darling...but really I'm only a
26 few minutes late....

1 RUSS: (CHUCKLES) See what I mean, Fred...women...never on
2 time.

3 JEAN: I know I'm late, dear - that's why Stella let me out
4 in front.

5 FRED: (SMILES) Don't be too hard on Mrs. Logan, sir...it's
6 only six thirty two...why, if it was my wife...well, she
7 (BREAKS OFF) Uh, excuse me.

8 SOUND: ANTICIPATE FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING
9 Yessir?

10 LIEUT: I'm Lieutenant Westrum...Homicide. I'm looking for
11 a Mr. Logan. Russ Logan.

12 FRED: Mr. Logan? Why, this is Mr. -

13 RUSS: I'm Logan. What is it, Lieutenant?

14 LIEUT: Like to ask you a few questions if you don't mind.

15 RUSS: Of course.

16 LIEUT: In private...

17 RUSS: Let's go up to the apartment. Mind if my wife - ?

18 LIEUT: Uh..no. Come along, Mrs. Logan.

19 SOUND: THEIR FOOTSTEPS..ELEVATOR DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE
20 ELEVATOR STARTS UP

21 RUSS: What's this all about, Lieutenant?

22 LIEUT: Just routine questioning, Mr. Logan. Where were you
23 this evening between seven and seven thirty?

24 RUSS: In my apartment. I came home this afternoon around
25 five.. My wife and I were just about to leave the
26 building when you walked in.

27 LIEUT: I see. You were here then since five.

1 RUSS: The desk clerk will verify that. The only way out of
2 the building is through the lobby.
3 LIEUT: Of course there's always the fire escape.
4 RUSS: I could hardly leave the building that way without
5 being see, Lieutenant. Our apartment is on the front
6 of the building and (BREAKS OFF) See here...I wish
7 you'd tell me what all this --
8 LIEUT: Nothing to get worried about, Mr. Logan. As I said
9 it's just routine. We have to follow up all leads...
10 RUSS: Leads...? In regards to what?
11 LIEUT: Murder.
12 JEAN: Murder? Oh, Russ...
13 LIEUT: We've been checking on a man named Frank Rizzo - your
14 partner's chauffeur, Nick Bemis, thought Rizzo was the
15 man who took a shot at his boss.
16 RUSS: I still don't see where that --
17 LIEUT: We checked all of Rizzo's old hideouts, the Surf Side
18 Motel was one of them. Only when we got there, he'd
19 been shot.
20 JEAN: (LOW GASP) How dreadful....
21 RUSS: Shouldn't you be discussing this with my partner?
22 LIETU: Rizzo had your phone number scribbled on a piece of
23 paper, both your home and office phone number...That's
24 why we came here first, Mr. Logan.

1 RUSS: But - why, it's ridiculous! I was in my apartment all
2 afternoon! You can check with the desk clerk! And
3 the elevator boy here!
4 BOY: That's right, officer. I just took Mr. Logan down a
5 little while ago.
6 LIEUT: I see --
7 SOUND: ELEVATOR STOPS...DOOR OPENS...FOOTSTEPS - DOOR CLOSE
8 RUSS: This way. Our apartment is just around --
9 LIEUT: Uh - I don't think I'll hold you up any longer, Mr.
10 Logan.
11 RUSS: Very well, Lieutenant. (SMILES) Sorry I flew off the
12 handle that way...but...
13 LIEUT: Sure.
14 RUSS: Long as we're up here...how about having a drink with
15 us?
16 LIEUT: Thanks no...but if you don't mind I'd like to use your
17 phone to put in a call to headquarters and then I'll
18 be on my way.
19 RUSS: Don't mind at all, Lieutenant. Come ahead.
20 MUSIC: (CURTAIN)

1 ANNCR: The cheapest automobile battery you can buy - is the
2 battery that costs the least per month. And when it
3 comes to low cost per month - none can beat the new
4 Signal Deluxe Battery; the extra long life battery -
5 guaranteed a full thirty months - on a service basis.
6 One reason Signal Deluxe Batteries deliver trouble-free
7 service for such a long time - is their micro-porous
8 all-rubber separators - which have been called the
9 greatest battery improvement in twenty years. Because
10 they permit free-er flow of acid between the plates -
11 yet are not affected by the action of the acid - these
12 unique plates help Signal Deluxe Batteries deliver up
13 to 35% more power - to take care of the many electrical
14 gadgets on today's cars. Also - you don't need to add
15 water as often to the new Signal Deluxe Battery -
16 because of the improved design all-rubber case. What
17 more could a battery buyer ask - unless it's a generous
18 trade-in allowance for his old battery; which Signal
19 Dealers are now giving. Or convenient credit terms;
20 which are available. So any way you look at it - you'll
21 find your best battery buy at a Signal Service Station.
22 It's the long l-o-n-g life battery that guarantees you
23 low cost per month. The new Signal Deluxe Battery.

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 WHISTLER: You've answered the Lieutenant's questions and he seems
3 satisfied with your story, doesn't he, Russ - - that you
4 were in your apartment between seven and seven-thirty....
5 at the time when Frankie Rizzo was shot to death in
6 Santa Monica. Yes...you're certain you're in the clear
7 now as you...your wife Jean..and the Lieutenant walk
8 down the corridor to your apartment door.

9 SOUND: KEY IN LOCK TURNS...DOOR OPENS. AN ELECTRIC ALARM IS
10 RINGING, OFF

11 RUSS: Come on in, Lieutenant. I - (BREAKS OFF)

12 JEAN: Why, Russ...that sounds like the clock in the bedroom...

13 RUSS: The...alarm..

14 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS IN...DOOR CLOSE, UNDER

15 JEAN: I set it before I left. I was afraid you'd oversleep.
16 And I know how fussy you are about being late.

17 RUSS: (NERVOUSLY) I'll .. turn it off...

18 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS

19 LIEUT: Just a minute, Mr. Logan...I'll do that...

20 RUSS: I've got it, Lieutenant...

21 LIEUT: I'll take it...if you don't mind.

22 SOUND: SWITCH ALARM OFF

23 LIEUT: (PAUSE) Humpt. I thought you said you were here in
24 your apartment between seven and seven-thirty, Mr. Logan.

25 RUSS: Why...I ... yes...

26 LIEUT: This electric alarm clock was set for seven o'clock and
27 it's been ringing ever since.

1 JEAN: (LOW) Russ....
2 LIEUT: How do you explain it, Mr. Logan?
3 RUSS: Why...I...look Lieutenant -
4 LIEUT: I can explain it simply, Logan....because you weren't
5 here to turn it off.
6 RUSS: Now wait a minute. I told you --
7 LIEUT: I think you'd better come down to headquarters after
8 all. A hand paraffin test will tell us if you've fired
9 a gun recently. And if you have...we've found our man!
10 MUSIC: (TYMPS)
11 WHISTLER: (WHISTLES)

1 ANNCR: Let that whistle be your signal - for the Signal Oil
2 program - The Whistler - each Sunday night at this
3 same time. Meantime Signal Oil Company and the friendly
4 independent dealers who help you go-farther with Signal
5 Gasoline - hope you'll remember:: Regardless of what
6 gasoline you use - you'll enjoy MORE miles of happy
7 driving - if you drive at sensible speeds - obey
8 traffic regulations - and avoid taking chances. You
9 may even save a life; possibly your own!

1 ANNCR: Featured in tonight's story were Bill Forman as The
2 Whistler, Ted di Corsia, Margaret Brayton, Ed Begley,
3 Raymond Burr, Herbert Lytton.

4 The Whistler was produced and directed by George W.
5 Allen with story by Adrian Gendot....Music by Wilbur
6 Hatch ... and was transmitted overseas by the Armed
7 Forces Radio Service.

8 The Whistler is entirely fictional and all characters
9 portrayed on The Whistler are also fictional. Any
10 similarity of names or resemblances to persons living
11 or dead is purely coincidental.

12 (PAUSE)

13 Remember to tune in at this same time next Sunday
14 when the Signal Oil Company will bring you another
15 strange story by The Whistler.

16
17
18 Marvin Miller speaking for the Signal Oil Company.
19 Stay tuned now for "OUR MISS BROOKS", Starring Eve
20 Arden, which follows immediately over most of these
21 stations.

22 This is the CBS RADIO NETWORK.